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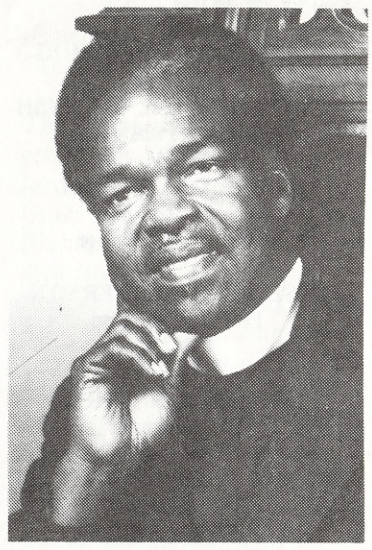
The Whole Truth

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

"The law of truth was in his mouth and iniquity was not found in his mouth." MAL. 2:6. *"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."* JOHN 8:32.

VOLUME XVIIII, NO. II | C.O.G.I.C. HEADQUARTERS, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE | MARCH, 1986

GENERAL SECRETARY ANNOUNCES APRIL CALL MEETING



BISHOP G. R. ROSS

Holy greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. As we look in retrospect, truly God has been good to all of us during the past year of 1985. The year 1986 promises to be a great year as we look with great anticipation to the fulfilment of the mammoth vision of our leader, Bishop J. O. Patterson.

As the General Secretary of the Church of God in Christ, I deem it an esteemed privilege to officially announce the forthcoming April Meeting which will be held over the dates of April 8-10, 1986, at our National Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee. The meeting is scheduled for only three days and it is urgent that all of us, as leaders as well as lay delegates, come prepared to stay throughout the session.

The credential holders' financial reports for 1986 are the same as last year as set forth in a recent communication from the Presiding Bishop's office. It is incumbent upon all jurisdictional bishops and supervisors to collect the credential holders' reports in their jurisdictions and report them in this meeting. The membership report of $12 (report changed from $6 per member in 1985 to $12 per member in 1986) will be reported in the November meeting instead of the April Meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: The Internal Revenue Service requires the Office of General Secretary to submit a current updated directory periodically. Our latest directory was published in November 1985. During the transition from the manual system to computer and because of a lack of current updated information from many of the jurisdictions, numerous errors were noted in the directory. However, the information has been stored on disks which makes it easy to correct. We are therefore requesting the bishops, supervisors and departmental leaders who have noted errors in your rolls, please submit the corrected roll or information to the Office of General Secretary not later than the close of the meeting.

Registration will begin at 6 p.m., on Monday, April 7. We shall follow the same procedure as in the past. Delegate badges with name, picture and other pertinent information will be issued to all General Assembly delegates. A registration fee of $5 will be requested of each delegate to help underwrite the cost of our operations.

Remember, all delegates to the General Assembly shall be elected by the assembly of their respective jurisdictions in accordance with Article II, Part II, Section b., Subsection 2, Paragraph (1) of the Official Manual of the Church of God in Christ.

In order to expedite the registration procedure, the master sheets and certificates of election will be mailed to each jurisdiction under separate cover inasmuch as delegates must be registered in their respective jurisdiction.

May the peace of God our Father rule in our hearts and the sweet fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us as we attend the Lord's business during this meeting. God's choice benedictions and blessings be upon our illustrious Chief Apostle and all of our wonderful leaders throughout the National Church is our prayer.

Bishop G. R. Ross
General Secretary
Church of God in Christ, Inc.

FLOOD AID: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

During the Holy Convocation, the Presiding Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr., asked the saints to share a love offering in support of natural disaster victims. 1985 had been a year of great natural disaster and people needed temporary relief to soften the blow of those circumstances. It was the Official Day of the Holy Convocation and Rev. Jesse Jackson had rendered a heart felt gospel message. Bishop Patterson being moved of God asked the church for a contribution. This contribution would be placed in reserve and used to ease the suffering of those caught in the agony of disaster.

The church must be true to Christ's call to care for the less fortunate. Our Church of God in Christ can well document the support our mission department gave the starving victims of the great famine in Africa, but what about trouble at home? Bishop's call for support was a humanitarian gesture meant to aid those near us who needed a lift. The delegates responded with $23,394.50 in that appeal and the following day after the communion service another $5,416.00 was gathered. These two offerings totaled $28,810.50.

After the Holy Convocation this benevolent fund was used in a manner befitting Christ's wishes. The Presiding Bishop personally delivered aid to many suffering saints who were victims of floods and other disasters. This past winter the violent storms, raging seas and pouring rains created massive destruction across America. Among the hardest hit were saints. Some of the very people who answered the Presiding Bishop's call in November were themselves recipients of the benevolent fund. In the Louisiana Jurisdiction, both Bishops Gordon and Winbush accompanied Bishop Patterson as he personally inspected the damage first hand. Bishop Patterson displayed the goodwill and compassion which characterizes the Church of God in Christ, as he left $20,000.00 in emergency funds to aid saints who lives and property were victimized by high flood waters. In Virginia and West Virginia a total of $15,000.00 was used to ease the dispair of natural disaster. General Board member, Bishop Samuel Green conducted an inspection of the stricken area and aided the saints in Virginia and West Virginia. Bishop G. F. Walker of West Virginia assisted in that effort. Both of these humanitarian gestures were made possible because of the saints.

Elder Clinton D. Scott of Roanoke, Va., wrote Bishop Patterson and the General Board words of gratitude. He reflected, "God bless you Bishop Patterson and the General Board for your concern, prayers and the contribution to my family of $1,000.00. The contribution was presented through the office of Bishop Green. Little did I know when I responded to the appeal you (Bishop Patterson) made on Sunday, the Official Day in Memphis, for flood victims that I would be one of the recipients.

It is a testimony like this which gives meaning to terms like humanitarian, compassion and brotherhood. Thank God for leadership which is in tune with Christ's call to service. The following letter is another testimony of what your benevolence means to a saint in need of an immediate helping hand. Possibly, one day the Church of God in Christ will have a ready standing budget for such purposes. The leadership of our Church is doing all it can with that given them.

WEST VIRGINIA NORTHERN JURISDICTION

Dear Bishop Patterson,

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever."

The purpose of this letter is to thank you, each of the General Board members and the National Church for the generous contribution sent to our area for flood relief.

I am very thankful to you for asking Bishop Green to make a personal visit to the area. His visit brought great consolation in a time of deep distress and devastation. I shall always be grateful to God, to you, Bishop Green, members of the General Board and Church of God in Christ, for all you have done.

Bishop G. F. Walker has also made several visits to our area.

Continued on page 7

THE WHOLE TRUTH

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GUEST EDITORIAL

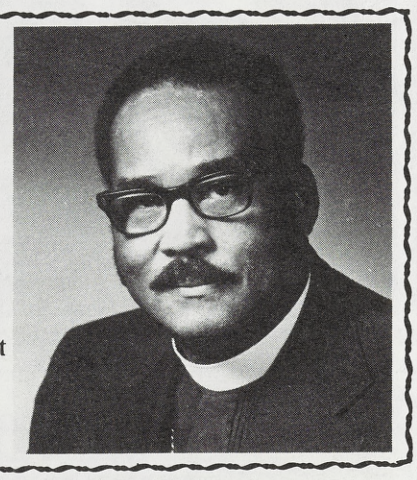
THE TIME OF SHARING IS NOW!

As Editor of the Whole Truth newspaper, I have enjoyed many engaging and intelligent discussion with people about the proposed All Saints University. Whether I am in California, Texas, Illinois or New York the saints express their concerns for the future of our church. Most of the saints know it is time to do a tangible project which supports our status as a true denomination. Over the country we see our building rate among the finest. We have an accredited theological seminary from which I am a graduate. There are various items one could point to and suggest as evidence that we have a great organization. Yet, something is missing. ASU will fill that void. From the many discussion I have had with countless seniors and youth alike, ASU is necessary.

Last month I profiled the coming accounting system and the department our leadership is currently developing. This is a sign of progress. ASU is the next great evidence of our commitment to Christ and the coming generation. Progress is challenging the "doom sayers" to pray more about their prophecies. Progress is challenging the lazy to get on the field of action. Progress is challenging the undecided to leave the so-called purgatory of indecision and clearly recognize no such place exist.

Like in salvation there is only heaven or hell and with ASU it is yes or no. I am calling for you bishops, pastors, saints and friends who have an inspiring word to use this editorial page and show your support. This is simple to do. Just relate some of those fine expressions I hear about the proposed school. Send those words to me typed and double spaced. Please, no more than two pages. I want to devote the next few months to ASU and many of you saints have the "right stuff."

It is time we pull together and demonstrate our love and support for those who lead the Church. Type that editorial today and mail it. Send to: Whole Truth, COGIC Publishing House, Elder David Hall, Editor, P.O. Box 2017, Memphis, Tn. 38101.



Bishop J. O. Patterson
Presiding Bishop
Church of God in Christ

Church of God in Christ, Inc.

International Headquarters
Memphis, Tennessee

Office of the Presiding Bishop

Dear Saints:

I am pleased to extend Holy Greetings to you during this most sacred season in which we observe the death and burial of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and celebrates His glorious resurrection.

As we approach this time of remembrance, may we renew our commitment to Christ and His holy call upon our lives. May we also rededicate ourselves to the great commission He gave to us and resolve to reach the masses throughout the world with the message of His saving grace which was won for us at Calvary.

Your Chief-servant,

J.O. Patterson

J. O. Patterson, Sr.
Presiding Bishop

JOP/lkw

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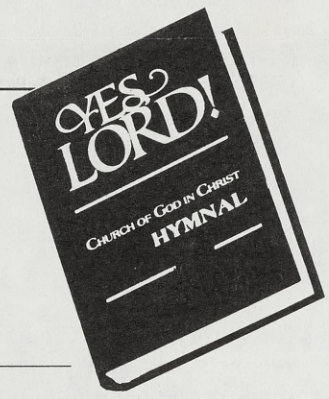

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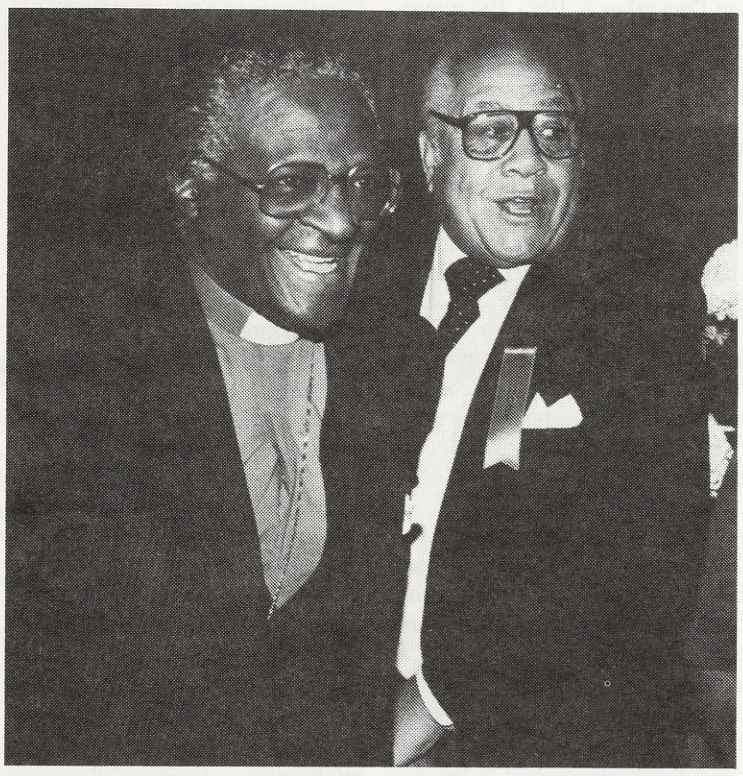
NATIONAL NEWS



BISHOP L. H. FORD, CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST FIRST ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP, GREETS BISHOP DESMOND TUTU, THE ANGELICAN BISHOP OF JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA AT A RECENT PRAYER BREAKFAST IN CHICAGO. BISHOP TUTU WAS ON A U. S. TOUR OF MAJOR CITIES AND STOPPED IN CHICAGO TO RAISE FUNDS FOR HIS SOUTH AFRICAN FREEDOM CAUSE.

From: Al Westbrook's Public Relations, Church of God in Christ, First Jurisdiction, Illinois 4526 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Illinois,

Bishop L. H. Ford, Church of God in Christ First Assistant Presiding Bishop, lead a contingent of Church of God in Christ ministers to host a prayer breakfast for Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, South Africa, during a Chicago visit while on a national tour that included several United States cities recently.

Bishop Ford is also prelate of the Church of God in Christ, First Jurisdiction, Illinois; and a leader of the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago which joined with Mayor Harold Washington and the City of Chicago to host Bishop Tutu at the prayer breakfast in the International Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel in downtown Chicago. The breakfast was attended by over 2500 clergy and religious leaders.

The religious leaders council was organized two years ago to bring racial harmony to Chicago at the urging of Bishop Ford and Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Catholic Archbishop of Chicago.

Bishop Tutu made a USA cross country tour with a South African freedom message and to raise funds. While in Chicago over $500,000 was raised to help his freedom cause in South Africa.

The Church of God in Christ has over 75 ordained ministers and 19 church locations in South Africa. Bishop Ford indicated that the Department of Missions is planning to bring a South African delegation to the 1986 Holy Convocation in Memphis.

PRESIDING BISHOPS DINNER

SARA POWELL AND WINNERS

OVER ONE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED ATTEND THE 1985 PRESIDING BISHOP'S BENEFIT DINNER.

The 1985 Presiding Bishop's Benefit Dinner will be recorded in the history of the Church of God in Christ as being one of the most outstanding affairs the church has experienced. It was held at the Airport Hilton in Memphis, Tennessee on Saturday, November 9, 1985 at 4:00 in the afternoon. There were in excess of one thousand, one hundred persons attending this affair making this a record breaking attendance count. From around the world the saints came dressed in their finest and joined together for a delight which helped to generate funds for deserving young people in need of scholastic financial assistance and provided an opportunity for the Lord's people to fellowship in an atmosphere of love and elegance. Joined with the Bishops, State Supervisors and Credential Holders of the church were an increased number of interested lay persons who also share the desire to support this worthy cause.

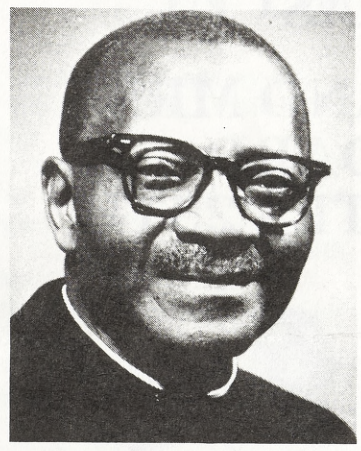
Under the direction of Mrs. Sara Jordan Powell, Director of Fine Arts and Talent, several inspiring and accomplished presentations were performed through out the dinner hour by the finalist of the 1985 Fine Arts Competition culminating in a truly beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace" performed on the trumpet by the first place winner, John Howard Ross, Tulsa, Oklahoma. The other winners were second place, Kenneth W. Houston, Kansas City, Kansas, third place, Marvin Avery Ford, Washington, D.C., fourth place, Rodney Hargrove, Glassboro, New Jersey, fifth place, Sharon Renee Daniels, Little Rock, Arkansas, and sixth place, Kenneth Baxter, Dallas, Texas.

Another of the highlighting moments of this affair was the reading of the resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Charles Harrison Mason Foundation which introduced a scholarship fund in memory of the late Mother Deborah Mason Patterson. This scholarship is to be awarded annually to a deserving young female graduate student who meets the established criteria and will be presented at the Annual International Women's Convention.

Reservations are now being taken for the 1986 Presiding Bishop's Benefit Dinner. Our goal this year is to enhance the attendance with one thousand more persons. You should plan now to attend this affair by sending a twenty-five dollar deposit to secure your reservations:

SUPPORT YOUR BUSINESS, THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST PUBLISHING HOUSE, P.O. BOX 2017 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38101 AND THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST BOOKSTORE 272 S. MAIN ST. MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38101

BISHOP LENOX EULOGIZED



BISHOP E. LENOX

On the cool but dry Chicago winter day of February 2, 1986, our National Church gathered for the home going services of Bishop Eleazar Lenox. Bishop Lenox was the Emeritus Bishop of the Southern Illinois Jurisdiction. Hundreds of saints, friends and leaders of the Church of God in Christ attended the services.

Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr., was listed as officiating clergy but a binding ecclesiastical obligation caused him to be working in another area of the country. The first Presiding Assistant Bishop L. H. Ford was scheduled to preach and did. Along with Bishop Ford was General Board member, Bishop P. A. Brooks, who served as master of ceremony. Bishop E. E. Cleveland provided the invocation, Bishop Bennie Goodwin read the Old Testament scripture and Bishop I. Cobb read the New Testament scripture. Bishop Flake provided tribute from the National Board of Bishops. Bishop F. E. Perry, Chief Adjutant provided the Apostolic Tribute from the Office of the Presiding Bishop.

The message was preceeded by renditions of "It Is Well" by Bro. Jerry Bratton and "Amazing Grace" by Sister V. Oliver Price. Bishop Louis Henry Ford preached the subject: "Man of Humility, Able to Stand During Rough Times." Bishop Ford reflected that leadership of the nature Bishop Lenox provided can never be replaced. Bishop Lenox was a servant and warrior for righteousness uniquely touched by God. He encouraged the family to continue in the heritage which characterized the life journey of Bishop Lenox. He concluded his lifting message with the timely illustration of the gentleman who moved his business to a better location. For

Continued on page 7

BLACK CULTURAL EXPOSITION

The Church of God In Christ participated in the Black Cultural Exposition held in Memphis, Tennessee, February 6-9, 1986. The participation took the shape of a booth exhibiting the history, doctrine and future of the Church. Elder David Hall, Publishing Board Representative coordinated the booth activity. Along with him were several local saints who volunteered time and talent to the Church for the glory of God. The saints represented the Church among the various major corporations, community agencies and other religious groups.

The booth was managed by Bro. Edward Stanton, who gave unselfishly of himself to promote our Church. He and the many volunteers worked several hours and provided friendly smiles, greetings and saintly witness about the Church of God in Christ. In the booth with Bro. Stanton were Sister Gloria Hall, Sister Louise Blue, Missy. Mildred Coleman, Sister Teresa Coleman, Bro. Leroy Coleman, Sister Jenny Chandler, Bro. Maurice Chandler and Minister Kenneth Davis.

The material in the booth consisted of Saints Center materials, a C.H. Mason Storybook for Children and tape recorded story. Greeting cards by Diane Mansfield and three large portraits of past and current Church leadership. The portraits of Bishop Patterson, Bishop Mason and Mother Mattie McGlothen created great interest. The booth workers explained who each person was and invited all exhibition goers to attend a local Church of God in Christ.

In celebration of Black History Month we all pulled together, yet something else rang clear. Bro. Stanton said, "I'm glad to be able to share my faith and witness to the exhibition goers. The whole experience has been good for me." Finally, the Elder David Hall participated in a discussion on the theme, "The Black Church's role in preserving Black values." Many of Memphis' leading clergy presented brief papers and debated the subject.

EXPOSITION BOOTH WITH ELDER DAVID HALL

JURISDICTIONAL NEWS

TEXAS

BISHOP AND MRS. WOODARD CELEBRATES 25TH

BISHOP R. WOODARD WITH ELDER NELSON

The membership of Williams Memorial Temple Church of God in Christ paid special tribute to Bishop and Mrs. Robert E. Woodard in a four-day celebration of Bishop's 25th year as pastoral minister, October 23-26, 1985.

Guest ministers from the Southeast Texas Jurisdiction were featured each night, along with their choirs and congregations.

Of special significance was the presentation of those ministers, products of the Williams Temple family, who are now pastors of their own congregations, and most of whom had begun their ministries under Bishop Woodard. This was the highlight of those services preceding the grand celebration, as each minister paid personal tribute to our pastor and wife.

Bishop Woodard began his pastorate in 1944, at Nome, Texas, and proceeded to pastor in Silsby, Port Arthur, Bessie Mae, Dickerson, Orange, and Beaumont, Texas.

He was appointed by the late Bishop J. H. Galloway to pastor Compton Memorial Church of God in Christ at Galveston, Texas in 1948. So it was with great pride and admiration that members of Compton Memorial joined in this celebration, and proudly acknowledge Bishop continues to be their pastor after 37 years.

Bishop Woodard was appointed by Bishop R. E. Ranger to pastor Williams Memorial Temple in 1960.

By his side each step of this monumental milestone has been a loving and devoted wife, Mrs. Esther Mae Woodard. "Mommie Esther," as she is affectionately called by family and friends alike, is the daughter of the late Elder M. C. Compton.

A very creative, talented, and intelligent woman in her own right, Mother Woodard is an experienced cosmetologist, milliner, designer, and insurance adjuster. Her spiritual attributes have had a very meaningful effect upon the church's growth and welfare. She has faithfully supported her husband's ministry, having organized the first choir and, in recent years, has organized one of the most spirit-filled prayer revival/shut-in's ever witnessed by this Church.

In the face of much illness, longsuffering, but an undaunted and enduring faith in God, Mother Woodard continues to serve the church in any area where she is needed. We know her to be a great inspirer, an example in Christian attire to the young women and, more particularly, in being a minister's wife and how to love your husband.

Bishop and Mother Woodard have enjoyed nearly 55 years of marriage. Their marriage has been blessed with three sons, Elder Robert Woodard, Jr., Mr. Billy Ray Woodard, Dr. Maurice Woodard; and, one daughter, Mrs. Rose Diane Morris.

This silver anniversary celebration is only a "token", yet fitting salute to a great man and woman of God, and Saturday, October 26, marked the culmination of the week's activities.

The anniversary celebration began with a formal dinner at the Blue Triangle YWCA, served and prepared by members of Williams Temple.

Immediately following the dinner reception, services were begun at the Temple, which was filled to capacity. The service very much reflected the theme chosen for the occasion: "His Ministry: An Unequivocal Monumental Milestone."

Standing for the Grand Approach and March, the audience gasped in awe as Mother Woodard, elegantly dressed in black and silver attire, was escorted by her sister, Mrs. Ella Ruth Patterson.

The highly publicized event was well attended by both the religious and political community.

State Representative Sefronia Thompson congratulated Bishop for "steering this ship on the right course for 25 years". She, in turn, presented Representative Larry Evans, who read letters of congratulatory expressions from other political constituents.

Bishop was lauded by such government officials as United States Congressman Mickey Leeland, who sent a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition; Governor Mark White and Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby; State Senator Fred B. Washington, and the Honorable J. Lewis, Speaker of the House, State of Texas. On behalf of Mayor Kathy Whitmire, Bishop was given the Medallion of the City of Houston.

We were favored with music from the Williams Memorial Temple Mass Choirs, Holy Temple (Elder Willie Jordan); Buck Street Memorial (Elder Charles Harrison); Compton Memorial and Evangelist Temple (Bishop R. E. Woodard); Lighthouse Church (Elder Coleman Perry); North Main Church (Elder Nelson Godfrey, Administrative Assistant); Saint Emanuel (Elder Bennie Allen, Second Administrative Assistant); and Nelson Memorial Pentecostal (Dr. Alva C. Nelson.)

Our hearts having already been inspired by a solo from Mrs. Betty Nelson, we were soon spiritually aroused, 'til we could no longer hold our seats', by the dynamic sermon of Dr. Alva C. Nelson. It was indeed a celebration to remember.

Elder Allen compared the event to that of a boxing match. In that sport, to throw in the towel represents a sign of surrender. The gathering of the capacity crowd was itself "the testimony of the towel," said Elder Allen, and he further admonished Bishop Woodard to "don't throw in the towel." Having an audience the size of tonight's gathering every Sunday morning is certainly not a testimony of defeat, but is further witness to "His Minstry: An Unequivocal Monumental Milestone."

Twenty-five years of unrelenting service may perhaps warrant more than a four-day celebration of song and praise. Indeed, it is a small tribute to pay considering the monumental milestone that has been reached. Bishop Woodard's unbiased devotion and personal attention to each member has influenced the lives of many. Yet

Continued on page 7

MINNESOTA

On December 8, 1985, the inaugurational service for the Right Reverend Stanley Neil Frazier, Bishop of the Minnesota Jurisdiction, began as Elder Fred W. Washington called the congregation to worship. This commenced Minnesota's "new beginning" and was a grand occasion that was richly blessed by God's divine presence.

The assembly of saints rose to receive the procession. Garbed in angelic apparel, the Minnesota State Choir led the processional while exhibiting joyful readiness to render songs of Zion.

Clothed in his episcopal garments, our Bishop followed the choir. Bishop Frazier walked before the congregation as a vibrant and yet a meek servant of God. A host of pastors and elders accompanied him.

Mother Dollie D. Foster, State Supervisor of Women, graced the pulpit while singing our national anthem, "Yes Lord." The power of the Holy Ghost embraced her lips of clay, and joyful tongues brought forth echoes of thanksgiving.

After the words from Mother Foster, Elder Lesley Ford, pastor of Living Word Church of God in Christ, came forward. He read to the congregation, and presented to Bishop Frazier, "The Certificate of Episcopal Appointment" and "The Jurisdictional Bishop Appointment for the State of Minnesota," both of which Bishop Frazier had received in Memphis, Tennessee during the 78th Holy Convocation.

Next, our souls and listening ears were made glad as a song of Zion poured out of the Minnesota State Choir. The angelic selection, entitled "Thy Yoke Is Broken", was led by Minnesota's own Eddie Robinson and his sister Sandra Robinson. The power of the Holy Ghost filled the sanctuary as on the day of Pentecost. Yokes were truly broken as captive souls were set free. The saints went forth shouting in a holy dance, lifting up holy hands, and thanking God for the refilling, the refreshing and the renewing of the Holy Ghost!

Like a dove descending from on high, the sweet spirit of the Holy Ghost calmed the saints as Elder Timothy Barge, pastor of St. Alban's Church of God in Christ, introduced our Bishop. "God has set His approval upon the appointment, and your joy is just an expression of the fact that you have been born anew. It's a new beginning," said Elder Barge.

Continued on page 7

SOUTH CAROLINA

Several months ago, on a typically busy day aboard the Charleston-based destroyer USS Nicholson, IC1 Morris Crockett sat down to study his Bible during his lunch break. Crockett, a dedicated son of the Church of God in Christ, has always maintained a steady menu of Bible reading.

As he studied the scriptures Crockett felt a special leading of the Spirit, he sensed that the Lord was directing him to begin a singing ministry among his shipmates. Crockett proceeded to speak with other men about his vision and a group was formed. The ensemble was soon given a name: "Sailors for Christ." The group became an immediate success on the ship. They began to sing at the Protestant services on the ship in June of 1985. In less than a month the attendance at the services swelled to the point where it became necessary for the services to be held in a larger facility. Many sailors have had their faith renewed as a result of the deep sense of spirituality of the Sailors for Christ. A tremendous witness is being offered by Bro. Crockett and his comrades, as they testify and sing about the power and Gospel of Christ.

As a result of their work on the ship the Sailors have been invited to sing in area Churches. In October they participated in the Sunday services of the Evening of Prayer COGIC, Crockett's home church, where the Elder William A. Preoleau is pastor. And on Christmas night the present writer was richly blessed when he heard the Sailors as they sang before a packed

Continued on page 7

PASTOR AND WIFE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy path." Proverbs 3:6

30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR DR. AND MRS. NATHANIEL ROBINSON

Theme: "Love In Action-"...Romans 12:10

On Sunday, October 20, 1985, at 4:00 P.M., in the beautiful Sanctuary of the Pilgrim COGIC, located at 5512 South Lafayette Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60621-(312) 363-5092)...The members, relatives and many friends said "Thank you" to two servants that really serve. Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Robinson, pastor and first lady of Pilgrim COGIC, the church that's led by the Spirit, thank you for the lives you both live before us. Your loyalty to the cause, your suffering, sacrificing your deep concern for us both natural and spiritual. The way you have chosen God over man and your determination to stick

Continued on page 7

WOMEN'S PAGE

WHEN CHRIST D W E L L S WITHIN by B. McCoo Lewis

A few days ago something very exciting happened to me during my morning devotion. The words of Colossians 1:27 which I already had shaded in yellow ink literally jumped out at me. "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

MRS. B. M. LEWIS

As often as I had read that scripture God had even more for me to receive.

Have you ever thought about the reality of Christ in you? Because Christ is in us, we have a storehouse of spiritual riches. As we draw upon them, they give us hope in the midst of a discouraged, guilt-ridden, doubting world. These riches empower us to follow in Christ's steps and glorify Him.

Christ in us assures us that our SINS ARE FORGIVEN. And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses. (Col. 2:13)

The love of Jesus enables us to be free of condemnation for the things in our past. Christ in us provides us with the inner joy and peace that only He can give.

God gives us the wisdom we need to obey Him and live successfully. We often don't know what to say or do, but Christ does. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally. (James 1:5)

Because Christ is in us we have access to the throne of grace. Let us, therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in a time of need. (Heb 4:16)

Oh yes our insufficiencies try to make us feel unworthy and we really are. But it is the Christ that allows us to come boldly to the throne of grace. We are assured that our prayers are reaching the Father in the name of Jesus Christ who dwells within.

Christ in you means GOD'S PRESENCE is with you at all times. When Jesus gave the great commission, he promised, lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the world. (Matt. 28:20)

Being in Christ puts us into a LASTING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. Because we are saved by grace God looks upon us with favor.

No longer are we alienated, undone, lost and hopeless, but rather we have been transformed and made acceptable to God.

No merit of our own, no work of flesh, no self-denying deed or penance, no sacrifice of man could make us acceptable to God. But Christ made it possible by His atoning death. Thus the first benefit of being in Christ is that we are "at one" with God because Christ is in us.

Sadly, the blessings of security in Christ is not realized by all saints. Some doubt the effectiveness of Christ's work and the word of God itself. The Bible tells us we are sealed to the day of redemption, the day of Christ's appearing.

We have the SEAL OF APPROVAL. It gives us abounding joy as we daily affirm its truth. To be in Christ means that we are sealed and safe.

The belonging aspect of being in Christ develops and intensifies as we take our place in the church and serve. Membership in that body also brings unlimited privileges and rewards, for our blessings are in heavenly places. (Eph. 1:3) This is the place of both our inheritance and our battle with evil. (Eph. 6:12)

We have great riches in Christ. Christ in us is the hope of glory. They are wonderful possessions.

PENTECOST AT ANY COST

This is another way of saying, yes, Lord. Meaning total submission to the will of God. Jesus was confronted with the cost of a Church, and His decision was to pay the price.

The Angelic Choir sang praises at His birth, but the cost was not in the singing. Wise men came from the east, bearing precious gifts, but the cost was not in the gifts.

As Jesus hung bleeding on calvary's cross, the sun went in mourning, the earth reeled and rocked, the moon went down in blood. But this was not the cost. The cost was Himself, the Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the world.

I wasn't there on the day of Pentecost, in that Upper Room, but the Bible says they were all with one accord, and I would like to give you my version of what happened on that day.

The 120 persons had been waiting for nine days, for the Comforter that Jesus said he would send. And sometime on the tenth day, Peter, the spokesman for the group, began saying, Glory, Glory, Glory. James and John and all the disciples began to say Glory.

Mary, in a corner with the women, looked up, and began to say Glory. Someone on the right side of the room, and someone on the left side of the room, began to say Glory.

And Glory spread throughout the room, until everyone was saying Glory. And suddenly, suddenly, suddenly, there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and that with fire.

Listen, I'm glad, I'm so glad, it's Pentecost At Any Cost!

EVANGELIST R. MONROE

ANNOUNCEMENT

Jesse E. Williams, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Administration, announces the appointment of Ms. Sylvia Law to the position of Director, Fiscal Services Administration, within the Assistant Secretariat for Administration.

Ms. Law has been in State service since 1969, and has worked for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene since 1982. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration degree. She is a candidate for the Ph.D. degree at California Western University.

MS.S. LAW

I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN

I can hear the people cry out,
"CRUCIFY HIM," "CRUCIFY HIM."
He turned water into wine,
He made clay and healed the blind.
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS"
He healed the sick and raised the dead.
With (2) fish and (5) loaves of bread, 5000 souls were fed.
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS"
He gave the greatest commandment in the law.
"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
The second is like unto it, thou shall love thy neighbour as thyself.
"CRUCIFY HIM: CRUCIFY HIM! THE PEOPLE CRIED!
He was betrayed with a kiss. He was denied (3) times before the cock crowed, all this was done by His close friends.
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS."
He prayed in agony; until sweat dropped off like blood falling to the ground.
CRUCIFY HIM: CRUCIFY HIM! THE PEOPLE CRIED!
Saying Father if thou be willing, remove this cup from Me...
Nevertheless not my will, but thine will be done.
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS"
They nailed Him to the cross... upon His back He carried the sins of the world...As He climb Calvary hill.
CRUCIFY HIM! CRUCIFY HIM! THE PEOPLE CRIED!
They hung Him between (2) theives...they gave Him vinegar to drink to quench His thirst.
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS."
They mocked Him until He died.
He said Father forgive them for they know not what they do...
CRUCIFY HIM! CRUCIFY HIM! THE PEOPLE CRIED!
About the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice saying...
ELI, ELI LAMA SA-BACK-THA-NI?
My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS"
On the third day He rose...I can truly say that since He rose in my life I can say...
"I FIND NO FAULT IN THIS MAN CALLED JESUS"

Sis. Elizabeth (Chipman) Douglas
Sacramento, Calif.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEM OF ALABAMA

The elegant banquet room at the Ramada Inn in Birmingham was the setting for the Annual Holiday Benefit Dinner of the Business and Professional Women's Auxiliary of Alabama. This gala affair was one to be remembered. Members and their guests enjoyed a social hour from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.; coffee and punch were served, and various talents were presented. We sang carols and the fellowship was ecstatic in the spirit of Christmas.

Officials of our great state and many out-of-town guests were present. We were highly honored to have, as our guest speaker, Bishop Chandler D. Owens of Newark, New Jersey. He is the pastor of Wells Cathedral Church of God in Christ, the Bishop of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of New Jersey, and a member of the General Board. He delighted our hearts as he spoke from the subject "Weight Watchers." You just should have been there! Words cannot express, space won't allow, and time won't permit us to convey the weight of this message. People from all parts of the state were there and you can yet hear the overtones of this affair and of the well-delivered message.

We look forward to this event with much enthusiasm, for there is nothing more beautiful than the gathering of saints and friends at an elegant dinner. The setting included Christmas trees with presents underneath for most of our guests (approximately 200). There were red and green candles on each table with candy and complimentary perfume for everyone.

We have three goals for the year: to give a stipend to a deserving young lady, to sponsor a child through the National Church of God in Christ Missions Department, and to give a donation to one of our churches that had been destroyed by fire. The ladies made a selection of Miss Phyliss Richie who is a student at Miles College. She rendered to us a beautiful solo after receiving her award.

God has blessed us with health and jobs, and we endeavor to help someone else even as He has blessed us.

Dorothy Smiley

MAKE SAINTS CENTER A REALITY

LOCAL TESTIMONIES AND NEWS

SISTER SINGLETON

Dear Sir,

Please enter my personal testimony in your articles or monthly magazine. I want people to know the miracles God has performed in my life.

I was involved in a head on collision. When I became conscious, I remember hearing a lady at my car door telling me and my brother-in-law not to move because she would call for help. I was driving and she could not get my door to open. My head was in pain, and the yellow dress I was wearing was completely red with blood that was coming from my head injury.

We were rushed in an ambulance and checked at the hospital. I received by the mercy of God no internal injuries, or broken ribs, nor collapsed lungs; not even a concussion from the impact of my head going through the windshield. Our car and the other passenger's car were completely totaled. I received only a cut on my head which required some stitches and a little of my hair cut off.

My husband took me to see the car. It was completely destroyed! The front end was crushed, and the steering wheel which my chest hit from the impact, was crushed like it had been folded over. But my God being the God that He is, perserved my life and my brother-in-law; for that I praise Him, and give Him the glory.

There is another miracle that the Lord performed in my life. I'm blessed to have two daughters. After loosing two sons and a daughter, who lived two days because of prematurily being born; doctors said I would never be able to have children. I thank God that what man considers impossible, is possible with God. First, He blessed me with a daughter in 1977. A lot of times Satan would try to make me doubt God but I kept the faith and God blessed me. In 1980, He gave me another little girl. God is still in the healing and miracle business.

Then doctors told me I had cancer and they would have to operate and try to cut out all the cancer they could. Before I went to the hospital my mother and some other saints prayed the prayer of faith, and a warm assurance came over me that God was with me.

The first reaction I had to this news was that I was going to die; especially since my great grandmother and my grandmother died with cancer. Through the faith of my mother and others, God assured me He would be there with me.

Through the night while I was asleep, my God touched my body before I went into the operating room. When my God touches, He doesn't need the assistance of nurses or instruments. When the doctors opened me up they didn't understand why the cancer was gone. Even one of the tumors he found was gone.

God let me know He did this for His glory, and all the praise and glory goes to Him. My doctor wanted me to come in every 3 months for him to check me, but I have not had an x-ray or test to give my doctor the satisfaction of trying to figure out where it went.

Today people are dying daily with cancer, but my God is a healer. He can heal anything and any disease, no matter what the doctor says! So many people think that miracles were only during Jesus' time on earth, but I'm a witness that God is yet a miracle worker today and forever.

Sincerely,
Sis. Mary Lee Singleton

SISTER MAE JOY

"The Lord is good: His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations." I visited my doctor on September 25, 1985 for an annual physical. He said that he felt a growth in my stomach, but when he asked two colleagues for their opinions they stated that they could find nothing wrong. A stomach specialist gave me a series of tests but all results showed that my stomach was in normal condition. During this time there were no symptoms of any kind from the possible growth.

On November 13, 1985 I began to experience mild pains in my stomach. The pains increased the next week; I prayed about the condition and decided to contact the specialist again. He performed a second test which indicated that I had a large tumor. I was admitted to the hospital on December 3, they performed a final test which determined that I had a malignant tumor, which was stomach cancer.

On December 6, they removed my stomach completely in a six-hour operation. Thank God for a born-again surgeon who loves the Lord and has 30 years of experience. Also, thank God for two anesthesiologists who are ministers; they prayed with me before the operation. They told me that I fell asleep praising God. "Oh, bless the Lord."

The day before the operation, the surgeon told me that I had done nothing to cause the cancer and that the medical field didn't know where it came from. I happily shared with him from the first chapter of James, concerning trials which are designed to prove the quality of character. I thought of I Corinthians 10:13--"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

The surgeon then testified that his spirit was uplifted and that he was able to rejoice in the hope of his salvation. My complete trust is in the living God.

Fifteen days after the removal of the stitches, the incision had healed. The doctor said, "Ms. Joy, no one heals so quickly; you are the strongest person I've ever met." Immediately my mind focused on Galatians 2:20--"I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

I replied, "Doctor, it isn't me who is strong, it's Christ in me. To God be the glory, the honor, and thanks for the great things He has done."

God performed a miracle. Cancer is a killer; the devil gave it to me because he hates me. Jesus is a healer and He healed me because He loves me.

It's so exciting to know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. For sixteen years I've walked with Jesus and He's been my protector. I recommend Jesus Christ to each of you who doesn't know Him. Just taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusts in Him. He wants to see you through every obstacle. Trust God today and let Him make a way. God can do anything but fail.

Thank God for the saints everywhere who diligently prayed for me during these times. I praise Him because I'm able to eat anything food desired and I've been released to return to work.

We will have battles with Satan; but remember to have faith in God, because God never lets the devil win.

Sister Mae Frances Joy
Maranatha COGIC
Columbia, South Carolina
Elder Derrick W. Hutchins, Pastor

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NEW SONG MOTHER EMMA F. ROSS

CHURCH MOTHER COMPOSES NEW SONG

NONE WANTED

God don't want no liars in His Church;
God don't want no liars in His Church.
It is The Church of God in Christ;
Everybody in it must live right.
God don't want no liars in His Church.

God don't want no slackers in His Church;
God don't want no slackers in His Church.
It is The Church of God in Christ;
Everybody in it must live right.
God don't want no slackers in His Church.

God don't want no backbiters in His Church;
God don't want no backbiters in His Church.
It is The Church of God in Christ;
Everybody in it must live right.
God don't want no backbiters in His Church.

God don't want no trouble-makers in His Church;
God don't want no trouble-makers in His Church.
It is The Church of God in Christ;
Everybody in it must live right.
God don't want no trouble-makers in His Church!

Song written by,
Mother Emma F. Ross
Tabernacle Church of God in Christ
Dayton, Ohio
Pastor, Elder Joseph McQueen

A SERVANT TO YOUTH

I am fifteen years old. My mother subscribes to The Whole Truth and I read it often. I noticed that some people like to write about the "anointed, Spirit-filled" people who are members of their churches.

I live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and I would like to write about Elder Gerald Saffold. He was born on June 7, 1958 and has done tremendous work with the young people in our community. A few years ago, God gave him a burden for young people. The gangs were starting to get really bad and the crime rates were escalating constantly. He started a choir for young people; the choir was named "Unity In the Community" to symbolize unity and peace in our city. It stressed non-violence and the idea that we "can do" all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13).

Over the years the choir has miraculously grown from around 75 people to its current membership of approximately 250.

Last year, Elder Saffold received a "Jefferson Award" in a statewide contest for those who do inspiring work in the community.

About ten months ago he expanded his work by starting a choir in Racine, Wisconsin; that group has about 150 members. He was blessed to start a third choir recently at a nearby neighborhood center in Milwaukee. He also hopes to start choirs in two other Wisconsin cities. All of the choirs have weekly rehearsals.

In addition to all this, Elder Saffold still has to fulfill his duties at Ebenezer Church of God in Christ, where he is the choir director and musician. He was ordained in 1981, and received a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1984.

Last summer God blessed him to go to Russia.

He was one of the representatives of the United States who attended the Twelfth Annual World's Festival in Moscow.

God has richly blessed Elder Saffold. He has a beautiful wife and they are expecting their first child. They're going into their third year of marriage.

I thank God that I am a member of Unity In the Community, and Ebenezer Church of God in Christ. I'm asking you to join me in my prayers for Elder Gerald Saffold.

Lichelle Renee McElroy
Ebenezer Church of God in Christ
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ALL SAINTS UNIVERSITY

MAKE IT A REALITY

FLOOD AID: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Continued from page 1

He has brought many relief supplies for distribution to the saints. His visits have always brought encouragement.

As I write this letter, some of the saints in Moorefield, West Virginia are yet rebuilding their homes. Many are in the process of resettling into temporary housing. The cold weather has slowed the process of cleanup, rebuilding and resettl ement.

Some of the things that have been accomplished with the contribution that we received from you are:

Purchase of thousands of gallons of drinking water.

Purchase of approximately 1800 gallons of heating oil.

Repair of the heating and plumbing systems at the Moorefield Church.

Restoration of the sanctuary part of the Church.

Replacing the piano at the Moorefield Church.

Purchase and installation of a water pump necessary for drinking water for a COGIC family.

Provision of transportation for the saints.

Provision of hundreds of food and clothing items.

Provision of hot meals for the saints.

In addition many hundreds of volunteer hours have been provided.

Once again I say "thank you" to all of those that were so kind to us in our time of need. On behalf of myself, the church and the general community, we wish you each multiplied blessings from God Almighty.

I am sending a copy of this letter to each member of the General Board as an acknowledgement of our appreciation.

Sincerely,

Elder H. Wheeler, Pastor
Moorefield Church of God in Christ

BISHOP E. LENOX EULOGIZED

Continued from page 3

those who die in the Lord, death is merely a move to a better location.

Certainly, the whole Church of God in Christ is praying for the entire Lenox Family and the congregation left to mourn this giant of humility and love.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

Continued from page 4

volumes could not contain the personal expressions of each person whose life this ministry has touched. It is a ministry, the success of which is due largely to Bishop Woodard's ability to both preach and demonstrate Christ. We are grateful to God for such a leader.

The future for us is not dimmed by the many challenges that lie ahead, but looks even brighter, as we continue to go from strength to strength, from glory to glory, and from height to height.

Yes, an unequivocal monumental milestone has been reached, and there is a path yet lies before us. But with such a God-fearing leader and God on our side, we shall successfully conquer all the many miles to go before we sleep.

Mary M. Davenport
Director, Public Relations

MINNESOTA

Continued from page 4

As the people stood, our newly consecrated Bishop humbly took his stand at the rostrum. "God is in the midst of her and she shall not be moved," said Bishop Frazier. "I feel like Moses did when given a great charge: How can I lead so great a people as this? I feel humble tonight, because God has reached down to somebody like me. It's simply by His grace, His mercy, that I stand here tonight."

Bishop Frazier went on to say, "I am here as a extension of the arm of Bishop J. O. Patterson and the national work in Memphis. I'm here to administer this Church and this jurisdiction. And with God's strength, with God's help, I'll do my very best to lead this Church to higher heights. God has given me a vision, that this Church of God in Christ in Minnesota will be the leading denomination in this state.

"Saints of God, Church at large, we must preserve the high standards and image of the Church of God in Christ. Saints, the sacrifice has been too great for us to turn around now. We must go forward, we must go ahead; there is a brighter day. I believe the Holy Ghost is showing us that tonight."

After that inspiring address, Bishop Frazier went on to preach his first sermon to the state. It was taken from Nehemiah 2:17-18. He told the people that it was time for the saints to start building the walls of the church, and called for a return to the things that made the Church of God in Christ great.

Brethren, pray that with God's help and God's strength, the walls of unity, love, and everlasting fellowship will be built for the Minnesota Jurisdiction, that we will "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling."

Carol A. M. Robinson
Minnesota Jurisdictional Reporter

THE 'SAILORS

Continued from page 4

house at the Calvary COGIC, where the jurisdictional prelate, Bishop Johnnie J. Johnson, is pastor.

The ministry of the Sailors typifies the impact that the ministry of the COGIC in South Carolina has had upon the large numbers of military personnel in the state. Bishop Johnson and the Calvary family leads the way with an active witnessing and evangelism program on the Air Force and Naval facilities of the Charleston area. In the past, Chaplains Delores Reese and Harold Harris--both members of Calvary at the time--have served in the Air Force and Naval Chaplains' Corps respectively. Moreover, there are also very effective ministries to enlisted persons in Columbia, Myrtle Beach, Sumter, and other areas where there is a military presence. May God continue to bless the Sailors for Christ and other phases of the ministry to military personnel in South Carolina.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alonzo Johnson

PASTOR'S AND WIFE'S

Continued from page 4

with it to the end no matter what the cause. "May God bless you both."

After a short spirit filled devotional service, the service was well on it's way to a great success. Members gave "thanks" to the couple for prayers prayed, visits to homes and hospitals, encouraging words of comfort, visits to the courtroom and one little brother speaking for the Youth of Pilgrim COGIC, gave thanks with these three little words: "We Love You-"...Love in action-a child's way.

One of the high points of the service was a solo sung by the pastor's 92 year old mother, Mother Devolina Johnson. Mother sang with a strong loud voice and the audience just seemed to enjoy every note she sang. This was such a special solo because Mother Johnson is our little miracle. Death came in a great way for Mother one Sunday morning while she was sitting here in the church. You could see her face gasping for breath, trying hard to keep on breathing.

Dr. Robinson immediately left the pulpit and placed his hand on her neck (steps of a good man are ordered by God) and began to pray and rebuke that devil. He just kept on rebuking in the name of Jesus: "take your hands off of God's servant"...then came the speaking of tongues and again back to rebuking in the name of Jesus.

Thank God for Jesus and thank God for a pastor like Dr. Robinson that lives so God can use him at anytime for any reason. God wrought a miracle that day through the prayers of a great man of God.

A very Special Tribute was given by one member:"Thank you both for the lives you live before us"...

Dr. Robinson-The Leader-A leader, so says Webster, is a guiding head.

Dr. Robinson-The Minister-A Minister is a representative of some great power or force.

Dr. Robinson-The Shepherd: This Shepherd literally feeds his sheep. Deacon Brandon, may you rest in peace.

Dr. Nathaniel Robinson-MR. DETERMINATION I am determined to do God's Work, God's way for God's people for as long as God lends me his breath.

This is truly "Love in Action"-God's way.

We say to you Dr. Robinson, you are just what a Pastor should be. Your deep concern for those that are not of the spiritual fold, knowing the importance of bringing them in, praying and encouraging them so they will see the light and they too will become little firery souls for Christ. We thank you for your prayers that's always so effective, especially so for some of our members, Deacon Moore, Mother Childs, Sis. Hopkins and of course, Mother Johnson.

Pastor Robinson has taken steps to beautify the church inside and out. He has taken steps to make sure the young people grow up to be respected, responsible citizens. He has taken steps at great length to inform the members that God is looking for obedient children. Always edifying the Saints so they will be able to STAND.

Encouraging us to love one another, and if you love, you won't see your sister or brother in need without coming to his aid. For when you do for your neighbor, you are doing God's work. First natural then spiritual. Our pastor's theme song: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus". Our church motto: "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy path." Proverbs 3:6. "Knowing you have a friend that you can take all your problems to, and he will tell you the right road to take."

Some people wonder why do they (saints) love the preacher so much. If you prayed for the sick, visited homes and hospitals, married their children, always handy with the needed dollars, encouraged the down trodden, buried their dead and left the last service with a bag of troubles across your shoulder, they would love you too. So if you really want to be loved like the preacher is loved, all you have to do is serve like the preacher does.

When God made man, he thought it necessary for him to have a help meet. Someone to work close by his side and help him meet his needs. So it is with our Honoree this afternoon. Missionary Robinson works so close by her husband, (Dr. Nathaniel Robinson's) side, and helps him to meet his needs. This pair is showing the world what it means to be a leader, and what it means to be a "Help Meet." Missionary Robinson went to work at night in order to help pay the church rent, borrowed money from their insurance policy in order to make the downpayment on their first church building. Since the beginning of the Pilgrim COGIC, she has opened her home as a refuge for those seeking food, clothing, shelter or just stop by for spiritual uplifting. She believes in sharing with others what God has given to her. Missionary Robinson, (we say Missionary, but we know a Missionary is not known by the papers or certified credentials she carries in her purse, but by the love she has in her heart), has an encouraging ministry. Always encouraging us to pray, come up higher in the Lord, and seek salvation because we are going to need it. Her encouraging reached out during service one Sunday, she went over to a visitor and told her to come up for prayer. The results, a new member. Missionary Robinson prayed for yours truly some seven or eight years ago for smoking. I visited her on Sunday and she told me if you really want to quit smoking, I'm going to pray for you. That was Sunday. I came home, had one cigarette that night, went to work on Monday--no cigarettes until Monday night, 1/2 cigarette. That's been seven or eight years ago and I haven't had a cigarette since. Thank you Jesus! One Missionary testified, she always enjoys getting get well cards from Sis. Robinson, because she always remembers to put a little something on the inside. Mother of Pilgrim (Mother Bertha Harris) testifies that Sis. Robinson is a great confidant. She can tell her things she wouldn't tell her Pastor. Pastor Robinson (her husband) says she is a great companion, mother and a great inspiration to him. Her support is one of action not just words spoken. Her daily life seems to be disciplined by the Word of God. Many have been healed, evil spirits cast out and many bad habits overcome through the prayers of this wonderful lady. She is one who passes the two main ingredients of any woman (saved or unsaved) who wishes to receive respect from her associates-- (1) knowing the importance of bridling her tongue and (2) not being too proud to bend her knees. She knows how to work in her position and yet stay in her place.

She serves her church so beautifully as president of both the Junior and Senior Choirs, Missionary Board, Public Relations Committee, Program Committee, Kitchen Manager and makes herself available to members when necessary. You may not remember all the things she says but it will be almost impossible to forget the life she lives before you, because the life you live means more than the words you speak.

We thank God for this pair, Dr. Robinson for being the leader (main interest to edify the Saints) and Sis. Robinson for being the "Help Meet" (main interest to help and enocurage.)

Then came the Word of God taken from the book of Job and delivered by Supt. Leon Daniels (close friend of the Robinsons) and just for eight or ten minutes, both young and old were standing saying "yes, yes" to the Word of God. Some gave praise to God in the Holy Dance.

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OBITUARY

BISHOP LENOX

ELEAZAR LENOX was born on January 23, 1902 in Yazoo, Mississippi, the seventh of ten children born to the union of Tibbie and Stephen Lenox. He received his early training in the Yazoo School System. The family moved for the better to Terrell, Arkansas in 1919.

As a young man, he had great ambitions and desired to become a postal clerk with the railroad. He made application and took the civil service examination for the position and was accepted, but God had a different vocation for him. He happened to pass by an old lodge hall where Evangelist R. M. Clark was conducting a revival service. God drew him in. Upon hearing the Word of God, the Gospel of Jesus, saving grace and keeping power, he surrendered his life unto the Lord, and was saved, sanctified and filled with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. He became a member of the Church of God in Christ under the pastorate of Elder P. S. Woods. His desire for a better life led him to come to the city of Chicago with nothing. He was blessed with the favour of the Jackson family taking him as one of the family, he joined the Church of God in Christ, under the pastorate of Elder Thomas Farley.

In 1923, he returned to Arkansas and was united in holy matrimony with Miss Mamie Grover, and brought his bride back to Chicago. Five children were born to this union: twins Naomi and Ruth, Eleazar, Jr., Louivory and James. He and his bride settled on the west side of Chicago.

In 1925, at the resignation of the pastor. Thomas Farley, the congregation agreed to pray for a leader and at the end of the time appointed, it was unanimously agreed that God had given each person the same answer, Brother E. Lenox. The congregation notified Bishop William Roberts of their decision and he came and ordained and appointed him pastor on July 21, 1925. He gathered the congregation together to pray for a better church home, because where they were was not conducive for worship.

The Lord blessed their efforts and on January 1, 1928, they moved to 2673 West Lake Street. The Lord added many souls to the church and several expansions were made to enlarge the building, but there still was not enough room. This church was known as "26" and the "Powerhouse".

In 1933, his wife Mamie became seriously ill. He continued faithful to the congregation, but never faltered in caring for his wife's every need. This couple was styled as Isaiah and Rebecca of old. He truly exemplified the teaching of Christ, in that husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the church.

The Lord called Sis. Mamie, known as "The Songbird of Lake Street", home from labour to reward in 1935, leaving his heart saddened, but he carried on the work of the Lord.

In 1936, the Lord blessed him with another great woman of God, and he was united in holy matrimony with Miss Trusillia Bryson. To this union five children were born: Doris, Trueannie, Eleazar, Lorenzo and Mary. The Lord called Mother Trusillia Lenox from labour to reward in 1982. She was a woman of great faith and admonished the saints that it was not by power, nor by might, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

Knowing the insufficiency of our church, he began looking for a larger and better place. The Lord blessed him and led him to the Lutheran Church at 246 North California Avenue, the very Sunday that the officials had decided to sell their edifice. He was given the price of the building, but knew that God had to work a miracle and make the way; as there was no money in the Church's treasury. God did work a miracle and at the set date and time, he produced the money to the Lutheran congregation. On Sunday, June 10, 1945, the church marched from 2673 West Lake to 246 North California Ave. Truly God blessed with favors from men and women from all walks of life to help in securing the necessary funds. A loan was made from Bishop Charles Harrison Mason that helped to complete the needed amount. Bishop Lenox was faithful in his promises of repayment, even at the expense of his own needs.

In 1947, Bishop C. H. Mason divided the State of Illinois into two Jurisdictions: The Northern and Southern Jurisdictions. He appointed Bishop Lenox over the Southern part with about thirty churches.

In 1955, Bishop C. H. Mason elevated him to the Bishopric and ordained him. He presented a program to the General Assembly for the help of disabled ministers and workers and was appointed president of this program known as the Superannuation Board in 1959. He was co-chairman of concession with the Late Bishop A. B. McEwen. He believed in following leadership and was always mindful of his every obligation assigned.

In July 1983, he was united in holy matrimony with Mother Addie Austin. He has served the Southern Illinois Jurisdiction well and now it has sixty-six churches, extending from Cairo to Chicago. He was stricken with a serious illness after a tent revival in August 1984, cancer of the throat. He became speechless and feeling that he would not be able to continue his work. He gave his resignation of both state and local in October, 1984. He appointed his son, James as pastor of the Greater Holy Temple Church. He endured over twelve operations, yet praised the Lord unto the end. He last attended service on Sunday, January 12, 1986. He was taken to the Belmont Hospital on Monday, January 13th, where he slept away on Saturday, January 25, 1986, two days after his eighty-fourth birthday. Leaving to cherish his memory: a loving wife, Mother Addie Lenox; three sons: James, Eleazar, and Lorenzo; five daughters, Louivory Mitchell, Doris Washington, Trueannie Williams, Mary Frances and his adopted daughter, Geneva Brown; one daughter-in-law, Aldrea Lenox; one sister, Mrs. Violet Davis; one son-in-law; eleven grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; nieces; nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

ELDER J. LAWRENCE

ELDER J. LAWRENCE

John Davidson Lawrence was born the eldest son of Mell and Mary Lawrence in Greensboro, Georgia on July 14, 1929. The Lawrence family moved to Jersey City, New Jersey in 1939 and in 1944 John was saved at Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Rev. Kelmo Porter, Sr. At that time, his surrender to God was absolute, total and permanent. God honored his life as a young teenager by first commissioning him to take the "Message of Salvation" to his parents and family, who accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. He began laboring as a teenage evangelist in the North Eastern United States. Wanting to improve his ministry while being approved of by God, he attended Boston College and Zion Bible Institute where he was graduated in 1951.

In 1953, he married Ethel Mae Gilliard and from this union seven children were born. With the total dedicated cooperation of his wife, his ministry continued to expand. "The Great Commission" was personified in the labor of Evangelist Lawrence. There was no person too hopeless, no place to barren, no problems too difficult, that John would not seek out and bring deliverance. Prisons, transient camps, homes, streets, churches, hospitals were part of "all the world" for him. One of his early great revivals was at Jones Avenue COGIC of Atlanta, Georgia in 1952, where many souls were saved. His ministry spread across the globe; to Africa, Europe, the West Indies, Cuba, Mexico, Canada and all of the United States.

Further, God gave him the vision of training saints and churches in the various aspects of soul winning. Therefore with literature, tapes, records, everywhere he went he began training God's people to go to the prisons, hospitals, to do door-to-door witnessing, etc. From this, he organized the Soul Winners' Institute. Later, The John Lawrence Evangelistic Teams were organized under the leadership of Delores Ellis Johnson. The original intent of the charter members of the teams were for the financial support of Elder Lawrence and his ministries. But Elder Lawrence stated that the Lord said he was to train the team members to reach the world through the teaching ministries and the anointing of the Holy Ghost just as he was doing. Consequently, the team members began working with him in Crusades, Retreats and Marriage Seminars.

Throughout his 35 years of ministry, God wrought miracles of the soul, body, mind and for churches at his hands. Thus, John Lawrence lives on in thousands of changed lives, churches and families. And, as a result of his diverse ministries, a Doctoral Degree of Sacred Theology was conferred upon him by the United Christian College of Brooklyn, New York in 1983.

In 1979 he moved to Atlanta, Ga. There he established this Institute. It will continue to function with his team members and his children under the direction of his eldest, David. John Davidson Lawrence, International Evangelist, Founder and President of the Soul Winners' Institute, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, September 7, 1985, at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia.

Surviving are his wife, Ethel Mae Lawrence; one daughter, Sharon; six sons, David, Iram, Mark, Reuben, Michael and Timothy; two daughters-in-law, Antonia and Dawn; four grandchildren, Troy, Andrea, Dyanna and Adriane; Parents, Pastor Mell Lawrence and District Missionary Mary Lawrence; one brother, Rev. Henry Lawrence; sisters, Geneva Ray, Grace Bell, and Lucy Coleman; mother-in-law, Rebecca Gilliard; sisters-in-law, Hilda Small, Mary Briggs, Dolores Todd, Stella Lawrence; brothers-in-law, Rev. Ben Gilliard, Robert Bell and Sam Coleman; Robert Todd, godchildren, Elisha and Pekola Roberts, Sharrod Ray, John and Stephen Smith and a host of relatives and friends.

PASTOR AND WIFE
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The Gratuity Hour was very rewarding to the couple. Some said thanks with material things, others with monetary gifts. The service was much longer than the time we had allowed but I can truly say God really stopped by and blessed this pair that day. "What A Friend We Have In Jesus."

Thank God for allowing Dr. and Mrs. (Elroy) Nathaniel Robinson to make the Pilgrim COGIC the great wonderful church it is today.

"You are always welcome at the Pilgrim COGIC".

Sis. Gladys Brown
Pilgrim COGIC

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